

Glossary of Terms

Advanced Life Support Personnel

Emergency Medical Technician-Intermediates or Paramedics currently certified by the State of Kentucky.

AED (Automated External Defibrillator)

This is a semi-automatic or automatic defibrillator which guides the user through the steps of defibrillation. This device recognizes life threatening heart rhythms and advises the user to shock or not to shock the victim.

AED Placement

This is placing an AED on site or in an area where it is readily available to use in an emergency. AEDs are light-weight, sturdy, and easy to use by anyone who has been trained. AEDs should only be used by individuals certified by defibrillation training programs that have medical oversight.

Chain of Survival

Four links that have been documented to increase the chances of survival for cardiac arrest victims: early access to emergency care, early CPR, early defibrillation, and early advanced care.

CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation)

CPR is the provision of rescue breathing and chest compressions to individuals suffering from cardiac arrest. It is a simple, easily learned emergency procedure designed to keep the victim's brain and heart supplied with blood and oxygen until medical help arrives.

CPR Training

This is certification training provided by either the American Heart Association, the American Red Cross, or through Medical Response Technician, Emergency Medical Technician, EMT-Intermediate or Paramedic training programs.

Defibrillation

This is the delivery of an electric shock to restore a heart's normal rhythm. It is provided by an individual trained and currently certified in the use of an automated external defibrillator.

Early Access to Emergency Care

This involves the ability of bystanders to recognize the symptoms of cardiac arrest and call 9-1-1 immediately. It also means that EMS dispatchers are equipped with instructions for the caller and can get an Advanced Life Support response vehicle to the scene quickly.

Early CPR

CPR, when properly administered, buys precious minutes until a defibrillator is available. Public knowledge and awareness must be increased so that those trained in CPR will actually use it when it is needed.

Early Advanced Care

Advanced care is delivered by a response vehicle staffed by advanced life support personnel (EMT-Intermediates or Paramedics). Advanced care is a way of providing many of the emergency room procedures in the field in a timely manner, thereby increasing the chances of survival for the victim.

Early Defibrillation

Defibrillation is the delivery of an electric shock to restore the heart's normal rhythm. Early defibrillation is a critical link in the chain of survival.

(EMS) Emergency Medical Services

This is an officially designated system for the provision of emergency response in a community for the first responder, basic and advanced life support services.

First Responder

This is an officially designated first responder emergency service for a municipality. It may be EMS, fire or police response vehicles.

Heartbeats

This is the minimum number of points required for designation as a **HeartSafe** COMMUNITY. Heartbeats are based upon community populations and a list of other requirements intended to improve the survival outcomes or individuals experiencing cardiac emergencies.

HeartSafe COMMUNITY

A community that has documented the 'Chain of Survival' links to address cardiac emergencies for its citizens. These links include early access to emergency care, early CPR, early defibrillation, and early advanced care. County is defined as one of the officially designated 120 counties in Kentucky. Individual neighborhoods or sections within the 120 counties will not be accepted at this time.

Smoke Free Community

This is a county/city with Smoke-free Community-Wide Ordinances/Regulations in Kentucky.